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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

NFAC 4235-81

9 July 1981

Dr. Julio Torres  
Director of International  
Security Affairs  
US Department of Energy  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Julio:

I appreciated your participation at our recent conference on "Nuclear Proliferation in the 80s" and hope that you found it a useful experience. I thought your remarks on the neglect of the engineering problems associated with nuclear device development were well taken, and I intend to see that more attention is focused on this aspect of the proliferation problem in the future. In this regard I have directed the Nuclear Energy Division to allocate substantial external contract monies to the nuclear proliferation problem in FY 82, and this subject will be one of the issues addressed.

I understand that a couple of years ago Los Alamos produced for DIA a paper on just this problem, that is, the engineering problems faced by potential proliferators. Since the study dealt in detail with the ways in which the US goes about producing nuclear weapons, I also understand that DoE judged it to be too sensitive for release to the Intelligence Community. If such a paper exists, I request that you reconsider the decision not to disseminate it to the Community or at least furnish a copy to this Office for my background use.

I am looking forward to continued interaction with you on proliferation issues in the coming year.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

25X1

Special Assistant for  
Nuclear Proliferation Intelligence

25X1

cc: Donald M. Kerr,  
Los Alamos Nat'l Lab

[Redacted Box]

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